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*For immediate release  
March 16, 2020*

### ***PRESS RELEASE***

#### **City of Indian Rocks Beach and Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association – Beach Fest Cancelled Due to the Pandemic Coronavirus**

On March 15, 2020 the CDC Centers for Disease issued additional interim guidance Pandemic Coronavirus. Specifically, CDC has issued guidance for large events and mass gatherings. For the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States.

Based on this guidance the City of Indian Rocks Beach and Indian Rocks Beach Homeowners Association have cancelled IRB Beach Fest scheduled for Saturday, April 18, 2020.

WORKING TOGETHER we will successfully meet the challenges of this event.

City of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida  
727/595-2517

## Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

# Get Your Mass Gatherings or Large Community Events Ready

## Interim Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)



Guidance as of 3/15/2020

Large events and mass gatherings can contribute to the spread of COVID-19 in the United States via travelers who attend these events and introduce the virus to new communities. Examples of large events and mass gatherings include conferences, festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events, weddings, and other types of assemblies. These events can be planned not only by organizations and communities but also by individuals.

Therefore, CDC, in accordance with its guidance for large events and mass gatherings, recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States.

Events of any size should only be continued if they can be carried out with adherence to guidelines for protecting vulnerable populations, hand hygiene, and social distancing. When feasible, organizers could modify events to be virtual.

This recommendation does not apply to the day to day operation of organizations such as schools, institutes of higher learning, or businesses. This recommendation is made in an attempt to reduce introduction of the virus into new communities and to slow the spread of infection in communities already affected by the virus. This recommendation is not intended to supersede the advice of local public health officials.

Printer Friendly Version 

### Summary of Recent Changes

Revisions were made on 3/12/2020 to reflect the following:

- Highlights vulnerable populations
- Adds a section on "Considerations for Postponing or Cancelling a Mass Gathering"
- Adds a section on discouraging handshakes and high fives (for sporting events)
- Adds standard language regarding disinfection procedures

This interim guidance is based on what is currently known about the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will update this interim guidance as needed and as additional information becomes available.

This interim guidance is intended for organizers and staff responsible for planning mass gatherings or large community events in the United States. A **mass gathering** is a planned or spontaneous event with a large number of people in attendance that could strain the planning and response resources of the community hosting the event, such as